Appl. No. 10/690,298 Amdt. Dated March 31, 2004 Reply to Office action of March 19, 2004

## **REMARKS/ARGUMENTS**

Claims 1-54 remain in this application. Claims 1-54 have been allowed. The Examiner noted, however, the need for correction of an informal matter (a typo in claim 43) to place the claims in proper condition for allowance prior to issuance of the formal Notice of Allowance.

Thus, such correction has been made in the attached Listing of Claims.

Upon review of the newly presented claims of the instant reissue application, it was noted that the term "fluid stream" in independent claims 31 and 43 had no antecedent basis. Moreover, it was appreciated that the proper term describing the claimed subject matter was, in both instances, "air flow." In independent claim 31, written in Jepson claim format, the claim preamble includes the phrase "wherein the canister is defined by a fuel vapor flow path via the canister vapor inlet through the initial volume of vapor adsorbent within a first region of the canister toward the vent/air opening, and an air flow path through a subsequent volume of adsorbent within a second region of the canister at the vent/air opening and the first region at the purge outlet." In the subsequent description of the claimed invention improvement, the term "air flow" properly describes that part of the defined canister including the "subsequent volume of adsorbent." In independent claim 43, the same error occurred in the improper use of the term "fluid stream." In both instances, amendment of the claims corrects the error.

Applicant respectfully requests that a timely formal Notice of Allowance be issued in this case.

This explanation of the needed corrective action was discussed by the undersigned attorney with the Examiner by telephone on March 30, 2004. If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that further personal communication will expedite the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number provided.

In the Official Action Summary, to which this amendment is responsive, the Examiner noted the additional requirement for the reissue claims to be in condition for allowance is the submission of the original U.S. Patent No. 6,540,815. Therefore, please find enclosed herewith the ribbon copy of said U.S. Patent and the Certificate of Correction, dated August 26, 2003, issued therefore.

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No additional fees are believed to be due in connection with the filing of this amendment and response. Should it be determined that additional fees are due and payable, the Commissioner is authorized to charge any required fees or credit any overpayment to the assignee's Deposit Account No. <u>23-1160</u>.

Respectfully submitted,

MEADWESTVACO CORPORATION

 $y \longrightarrow \chi \lambda$ 

Attorney for the Applicant Registration No. 28,444

Attachment

Date: March 31, 2004 5255 Virginia Avenue Post Office Box 118005 Charleston, SC 29423-8005 Telephone (843) 740-2311



## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No.

10/690,298

Confirmation No.: 2091

Applicants

L. H. Hiltzik, J. Z. Jagiello, E. D. Tolles, and R. S. Williams

Filed

October 21, 2003

TC/A.U.

1724

Examiner

Frank M. Lawrence Jr.

Docket No.

CHR 2001-79 (reissue)

Customer No.

36876

For

Method For Reducing Emissions From Evaporative Emission Control

Systems

Honorable Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

## SURRENDER OF ORIGINAL LETTERS PATENT

Dear Sir:

Applicant hereby surrenders attached U.S. Patent No. 6,540,815 B1, in accordance with 35 U.S.C. 251 and 37 C.F.R. 1.178.

Also attached is an original Certificate of Correction that issued for U.S. Patent No. 6,540,815 BI on August, 26, 2003.

Applicant respectfully requests that attention be made to the corrections set forth in the Certificate of Correction upon issuance of the reissue application.

Respectfully submitted

MEADWESTVACO CORPORATION

Terry B. McDaniel
Attorney for Applicant

Registration No. 28,444

Attachments: Original U.S. Letters Patent No. 6,540,815 B1.

Original Certificate of Correction.

Date April 2, 2004 5255 Virginia Avenue Post Office Box 118005 Charleston, SC 29423-8005 Telephone (843) 740-2311

## UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE **CERTIFICATE OF CORRECTION**

PATENT NO.

: 6,540,815 B1

DATED

: April 1, 2003

INVENTOR(S) : Laurence H. Hiltzik et al.

Page 1 of 1

It is certified that error appears in the above-identified patent and that said Letters Patent is hereby corrected as shown below:

Title page,

Item [56], References Cited, U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS, insert:

-- 5,957,114

9/1999

Johnson et al.

6,078,601

8/2000

Reddy --.

Drawings,

Sheet 1, beneath Figure 1 delete "Prior Art."

Column 8,

Table, Footnote 1, delete "Test" and insert therefor -- Tests --.



Signed and Sealed this

Twenty-sixth Day of August, 2003

**JAMES E. ROGAN** Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office